

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

BA - 1780

MAGI - 0317804504

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Joseph Parks House

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

1129 Green Acre Rd.

CITY, TOWN

Towson

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Ninth

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Baltimore

3 CLASSIFICATION**CATEGORY**☐ DISTRICT☒ BUILDING(S)☐ STRUCTURE☐ SITE☐ OBJECT**OWNERSHIP**☐ PUBLIC☒ PRIVATE☐ BOTH**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**☐ IN PROCESS☐ BEING CONSIDERED**STATUS**☒ OCCUPIED☐ UNOCCUPIED☐ WORK IN PROGRESS**ACCESSIBLE**☒ YES: RESTRICTED☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED☐ NO**PRESENT USE**☐ AGRICULTURE☐ MUSEUM☐ COMMERCIAL☐ PARK☐ EDUCATIONAL☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ RELIGIOUS☐ GOVERNMENT☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ TRANSPORTATION☐ MILITARY☐ OTHER:**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Lee. E. Gresser

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

1129 Green Acre Rd.

CITY, TOWN

Towson

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21204

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

County Courts Building

Liber #: 5398

Folio #: 917

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Towson

STATE

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

BA-1780

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		DATE <u>June, 1979</u>

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

What has been determined to be the Joseph Parks house is this two story stone structure five bays wide by four bays deep which is topped with a hipped roof. The flat coursed stones of the walls are brown and vary in size. The hipped roof is covered with gray slate and has large gabled "dormers" on each side. The fenestration is regular with 4/4 sash windows.

The south facade is the original main facade although it does not face the present main road. A porch covers the entire first level, rests on stone pillars 3½ feet above the ground, and projects out 8 feet. There is lattice between the ground and porch floor. The roof of the porch is supported by turned columns. The banister between the columns consists of square balusters.

Most interesting is the painted pointing on this first level only which attempts to give the stones a squared appearance.

The formal centrally located entrance has a 9 light transom and side lights. The sunken panels of the 20 inch side reveals are 11½ inches wide and there is a marble sill 21 inches long and 6 inches thick.

Window frames have 3/4 round beaded mouldings. The windows themselves are 2 feet above the porch floor and have openings 3 feet wide by 6 feet 8 inches high. Unusual is the second window from the west which is the only one with a marble sill similar to that of the door. Also noted is the fact that the mouldings of the outer windows do not touch the porch ceiling as do the inner windows.

The central qualities are emphasized by the central gable which is covered, as are all, with fishscale shingles.

The inner bays of the west facade are windowless. Off center to the north is the large gabled "dormer" vented by two 4/4 sash windows. An interior end chimney pierces the gable through the ridge. The east facade has the same appearance although it does have a centrally located cellar entrance.

The north facade has proved to be problematical and suggests that several major alterations have taken place. A very evident line suggests a larger porch covered the westernmost two bays where windows now exist. Presently, there is a centrally located entrance with a portico to give it the appearance of being the main facade. Some as yet undetermined alteration to the second window from the west corresponds to the altered opening on the south facade. If these openings were originally doors, it is possible that the building was originally of a side hall and parlor plan.

The present interior plan is that of a central hall with double parlors. This hall is 7 feet 4 inches wide and has

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

entrances to three of the four parlors. Closed string stairs are located against the west wall and have fluted panels, turned balusters, a turned ball-top newel and turned pendants. Found throughout are bulls-eye corner blocks and ogee mouldings. Ceilings are 8 feet 5 inches high.

The parlors, connected by double doorways $7\frac{1}{2}$ feet wide, are served by interior end chimneys. The northeast parlor has the most original appearance. This fireplace mantel has a surround with fluted and chamfered pilasters and an entablature with dentils all which match the staircase in design. The opening is 32 inches wide, 29 inches high and 24 inches deep. The chimney breast is 50 inches wide and projects into the room $18\frac{1}{2}$ inches.

The switch-back back stair to the second level and the main stair are side by side. The second level repeats the plan of the first with the addition of a fifth room at the south end of the hall. The same mouldings are seen here and the ceilings are 7 feet 7 inches high. Other features include tall $2\frac{1}{2}$ raised panel doors with mortise and tenon bracing.

The switch-back stair is continuous to the third level. Here are three additional bedrooms. An unusually shaped ceiling is created resulting from the gables. The same mouldings with plain corner blocks are seen here, and it seems like older wavy glass remains in the windows. Random width flooring is seen in one closet. The chimney breasts on this level are $28\frac{1}{2}$ inches wide and project 34 inches. Doors with square raised panels which are stored here were probably once used between parlors on the first level.

In the hipped section of the attic circular sawn materials with cut nails and very wide purlins with $\frac{1}{2}$ -1 inch spacings are seen.

The full basement is 6 feet 9 inches high and has stone walls. A stone wall bisects the room transversely and is 21 inches thick. Circular sawn joists are tied into this wall and measure 11 by $2\frac{1}{4}$ by $2\frac{3}{4}$ inches. These are fixed with cut nails. There are solid stone chimney supports and evidence of a fire on the east wall.

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES 1850 - 1866

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This nearly square stone structure is the only visual reminder in this large residential development that there was once an over one-hundred acre estate here owned by Joseph Parks.

The house has a grand appearance as it still commands a hilltop view, although instead of a beautiful valley it overlooks many houses and the Baltimore Beltway.

Characteristics which accentuate this grand appearance include the hipped roof with large gabled fishscale "dormers" and the spacious "front" porch.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

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9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Baltimore County Land Records

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

See Attachment

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

D. Owings Schultz

WAYNE L. NIELD, II

ORGANIZATION

HISTORIC TOWSON, INC.

DATE

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

CHAIN OF TITLE FOR # 1129 GREEN ACRE ROAD

<u>LIBER</u>	<u>FOLIO</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>GRANTOR</u>	<u>GRANTEE</u>
5398	917	September 28, 1973	Irvin O. Bauer, Jr. & wife	Lee E. Gresser & wife
Beginning on the 34th line of a parcel of land conveyed by William F. Bauer, et al to Opfer - Dickinson Co., Inc. October 11, 1958 and recorded in the land records of Baltimore County 3431/404, distant 78.23 feet, also being lot #5 Block B on a plat dated April 22, 1959 in Plat Book 26/68, North...West 115 feet, North...East 200 feet to the south side of Green Acre Rd...Containing .528 acres known as 1129 Green Acre Road.				
3634	596	November 30, 1959	Opfer - Dickenson Co., Inc.	Irvin O. Bauer, Jr & wife
3628	512	November 16, 1959	William F. Bauer, et al	Opfer - Dickenson Co., Inc.
626	515	January 2, 1926	John D. Roney et al	Frederick C. Bauer et al
Beginning of the east side of Mine Bank Road at the end of a line of land described in a deed dated April 5, 1851 conveyed by John E. Howard, Jr. to Joseph Parks recorded in the land records of Baltimore County 456/431, North...East 1707.7 feet to the end of the first line of and described in deed dated April 17, 1850 and recorded in the land records of Baltimore County 440/169 (same grantor-grantee as above), North...West 435.35 feet, South...East 207.63 feet to the center of Old Furnace Road...Containing 119.55 acres.				
610	405	March 10, 1925	Cornelia E. Smith et al	John D. Roney
Cornelia E. Smith et al are the children of <u>Samuel E. Parks</u> , who devised his property to them by way of his Last Will and Testament recorded in <u>Will Book 18, folio 432, December 13, 1902.</u> *				
<u>Joseph Parks</u> , by way of his Last Will and Testament recorded in <u>Will Book 4, folio 216, April 12, 1866</u> devised his property to his wife Rebecca, & after her death to his son Samuel E. Parks being designated as the farm on which the testator then resided.*				

* See Attachments

LAST WILL & TESTAMENT
JOSEPH PARKS

Joseph Parks Last Will & Testament recorded in
Will Book 4, folio 216 April 12, 1866

To wife Rebecca - "...all my property...real, personal or mixed..."

To son Samuel E. Parks - "I give...the farm on which I now reside after
the death of my beloved wife..."

To daughter Priscilla E. Parks, wife of Joseph E. Parks
"I give...the farm recently pruchased by me from
Samuel G. Duncan...deed dated 27th March 1866...
to take effect at the death of my beloved wife..."

Executor of Will is Samuel E. Parks

LAST WILL & TESTAMENT
SAMUEL E. PARKS

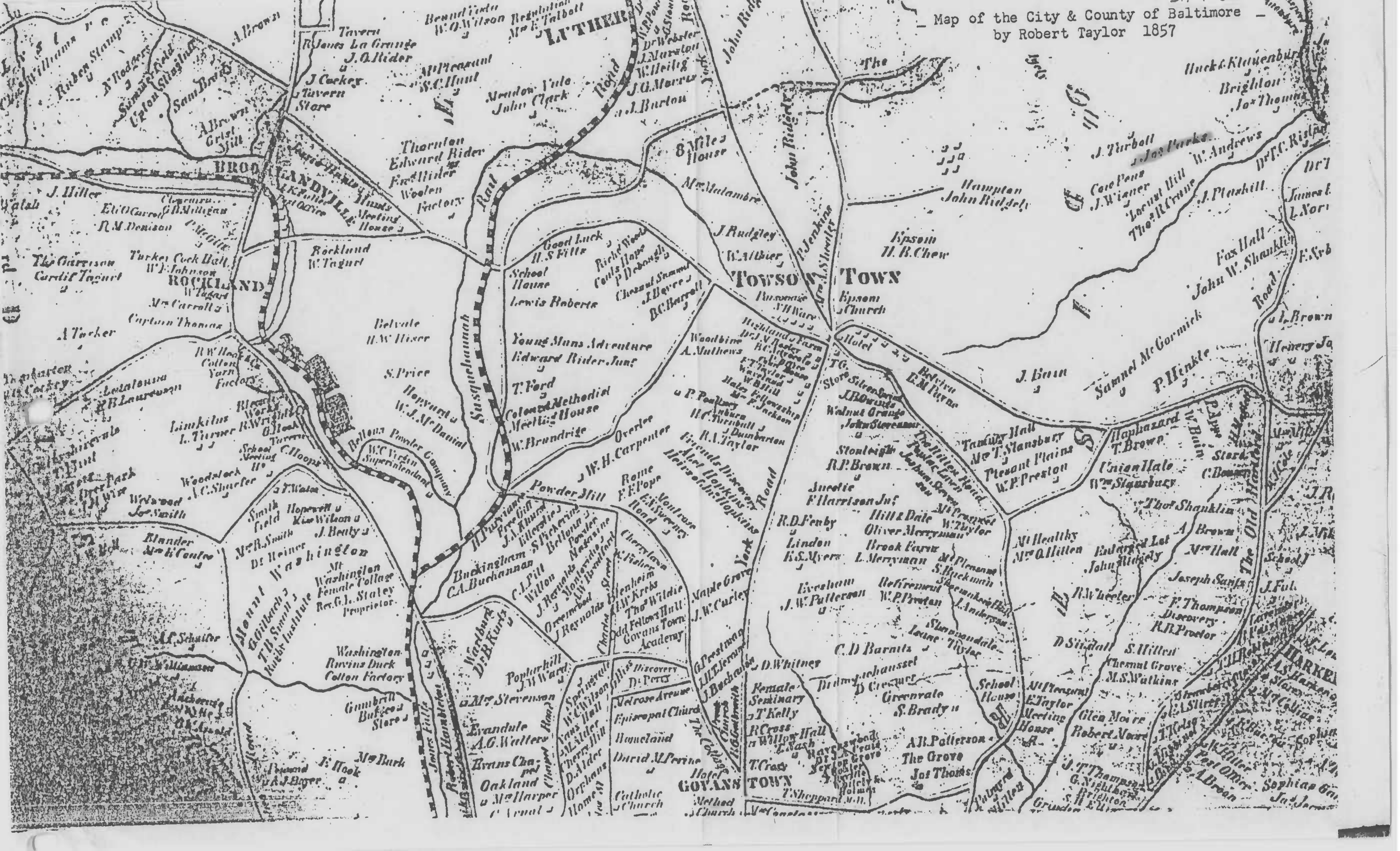
Samuel E. Parks Last Will & Testament recorded in
Will Book 18, folio 432 December 23, 1902

First: "I do give...all my property and estate...with the exception
of that...mentioned...in the next item...to my eight child-
ren..." with the authority to sell.

Second: "In as much as I desire to provide a home for my unmarried
children for the period of ten years after my death, or
until my...children shall...marry..." Louisa R., Nannie E.
Ada M., Martha, Robert W. "shall have the use, occupation
and tenancy of the farm whereon I now reside, and the wood
lot at Providence...and of course shall keep the buildings,
fencing,...in good repair..."

Sons Elisha W. and Samuel A. Parks are appointed executors.

(other child not listed is Cornelia E. Smith, wife of W. Gill Smith)



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